

WAR MARKED BY CROP OF RUMORS

CORRESPONDENT COMMENTS ON ONE THAT FRANCE AND RUSSIA WILL DESERT BRITAIN.

(By Frederic William Wile in Chicago Tribune.)

London, Feb. 12.—People have called it the "automobile war" owing to the heavy role played by the motor; the "submarine war," because of the surprises sprung and damage wrought by under water warships; the "aircraft war," on account of the picturesqueness of not particularly effective employment of airplanes and bomb dropping aeroplanes, and the "world war," because two hemispheres already have been smeared in blood in the course of its prosecution.

No less appropriate a title for it would be the "rumor war," for the amazing flow of canards and fakes which gain circulation from hour to hour is undoubtedly one of the war's big features. I do not mean ephemeral yaps of battles unfought and victories unwon, forgotten 24 hours after they have caused their little thrill. I refer to the incessant, persistently repeated stories of really far-reaching importance.

London, Paris, Berlin and Petrograd have been and still are full of rumors. The classic English rumor is the tale of the 70,000 Russian troops who arrived in Great Britain from Archangel and "stole" their way across the country and the English channel to the fighting lines in France. That particular "faradiddle," old English for "pipe dream," was born in September and is still believed by tens of thousands of Englishmen who are not guilty by nature.

A rumor of no less stubborn a character is now making the rounds. It is to the effect that both Russia and France are surreptitiously making peace with Germany with a view to a "separate peace," to be concluded at the expense of this country, in order that Germany's hands may be freed to deal with the "one and only foe"—England.

I am able to repeat—without mention of names—what one of the most prominent and powerful members of the British government, a man whose name is a household word and who is charged with the administration of one of the great war-making departments, said this week to a distinguished foreigner who asked him about the "separate peace" rumor. This is a succinct summary of his reply:

"We have heard this rumor. It is a story which could only come to our knowledge as such. It is not likely that our allies, if they were seriously thinking of committing a breach of loyalty, would bring it to our attention, at least until the new alliance was fairly complete. Let Russia and France stop fighting if they want to. England will go on alone. We shall go on because we must and because we can. Time is on our side."

"England probably alone among the allies grows stronger instead of weaker both on land and sea as the war progresses. Our strength is developing. That of our friends, though it too, has not yet reached the maximum, has been sorely drained."

"England's real war effectiveness has also felt the strain. Our heavy loss of army officers and of 10,000 trained naval officers and men is the most serious blow we have suffered. "But time favors us. That the war will be a long war—a view held in England from the start—encourages us to believe that by 'speeding up' our training system ashore and afloat we shall not be so long as our enemies. We look and hope to whipper into shape military and naval personnel which will be an adequate substitute for the experienced people we have lost. America's war, particularly the civil war, are analogous. The emergency produced the men in every case. It will produce them for us."

"There are Frenchmen, we hear,

TWO ASTOR WOMEN AID THE ALLIES



Mrs. Waldorf Astor (top) and Mrs. John Jacob Astor.

These two members of the Astor family are giving liberally of their money and time to the allies in the present war. Mrs. Waldorf Astor is in Plymouth, England, almost constantly, where she looks after the comfort of soldiers. Mrs. John Jacob Astor has herself in New York, where she is one of the leaders in the movement to provide French soldiers with Lafayette comfort kits.

who sigh for the arrival of Kitchener's army at once, even in its present unfinished state. Many of Kitchener's men have of course, already been in the trenches. Reinforcements are going across the channel regularly. But we are not 'pouring' them into the field in the accepted sense of that misused term.

"We are following the principle of the oil for the lamp. We are not sending over all the oil to be consumed in order that the lamp may burn brightly for a while, and then suddenly go out for lack of replenishment. We prefer to conserve the oil in large quantities at the point of supply, and only transport it in bulk when there is plenty more left behind."

"The French government is eminently satisfied with British performance in respect of military cooperation. President Poincaré said recently: 'England promised much, but she has done even more, far more, than she promised.'"

I had an opportunity this week to ask a celebrated French editor what he thought about the "separate peace" rumor. M. le Redacteur, whose wife is an American writer and now a regular contributor to the French press, is in intimate personal touch with every personage of prominence and power in the republic.

"A French government," he said, "which compromised with Germany and deserted England would have a military revolution on its hands in 24 hours. The only settlement with Germany which the French army wants or will tolerate is a victory by it in the field."

While on the theme of the "rumor war," it is appropriate to mention another morsel of army gossip now passed about from mouth to mouth. It is to the effect that Lord Kitchener ardently desires and secretly plans to go to the front himself in the spring at the head of "his" fine new army. "K" is an organizer and drillmaster pure and simple, in the estimation of many Englishmen who ought to know. He has been called "a sergeant-major." But if he expects to convert his field marshal's rank into something more than a title, the country at large will unquestionably repose in him the fullest possible confidence. "K" is the man of the hour.

Special Taxation Notice.

Notice is hereby given to all persons interested that the city council of the city of Rock Island, having ordered that a local improvement be made by constructing a six inch water main on Eleventh street from Drabner street north a distance of three hundred feet, the ordinance for the same being on file in the office of the city clerk, and the city having applied to the county for an assessment of the costs of said improvement, according to frontage and an assessment therefore having been made and returned to said court, the final hearing thereon will be held on the 11th of March, A. D. 1915, at the hour of 9:00 o'clock a. m., or as soon thereafter as the business of the court will permit. All persons desiring may file objections in said court before the said day and may appear on the hearing and make their defense. Said assessment is payable in four (4) installments and all installments except the first shall bear interest from and after the dates of confirmation until paid, at the rate of 5 per cent per annum.

ED. NELSON.

Officer Appointed to Make Assessment.

February 23, 1915.

The number of factory girls newly recruited every year in Japan is 200,000, of whom only 80,000 go home. The remaining 120,000 never return. They go from one factory to another or into other occupations, never thinking of going home.—World of Labor.

SERBIA CRUSHED BY SERIES WARS

MILLION PERSONS NOW SUFFERING FROM LACK OF FOOD AND CLOTHING.

Kragujevatz, Serbia.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)—The distressing feature of the situation in Serbia is the difficulty of rehabilitating the hundreds of thousands who were obliged to abandon homes and lands that became battle areas during the Austrian invasion. Officers of the Serbian government see no reason why the people should not return, but the difficulty lies in providing them with grain for replanting and feeding them until new crops are harvested. This task has been undertaken, but the government is handicapped by a lack of railway facilities and the almost impassable roads. Help abroad is being sought by the government for this agricultural rehabilitation.

Societies that have operated in former years to instruct the rural population in methods of intensive farming have been demoralized by three wars in such rapid succession. Therefore, despite all the government is seeking to accomplish a visitor is apt to get the impression that nobody in Serbia is doing anything that does not pertain to the support of the army. Women and children have to be sacrificed to the needs of the grown male population who must be kept in fighting trim and in the fighting line at any cost.

Everywhere in Serbia The Associated Press correspondent heard the national plea that the country is fighting not only for the maintenance of her present area, with its population of over four million, but for the liberation of the Slav states of Austria-Hungary. If she succeeds, some eleven millions will be added to her population and every one recognizes that so gigantic a task, even with Russia's aid, cannot be accomplished without supreme sacrifices.

The Serbians are accustomed to poverty and hardship, but there are said to be a million persons really suffering distress from lack of food and clothing. They have never been reduced to such destitution before. And the Serbians are contented with no little. The army lives chiefly on bread and soup and most of the peasants, even in normal times, do not eat meat except on feast days. Help from the Slavs in America, liberal though it has been, is not adequate to meet the situation. Everyone here is planning his hope for life upon America's philanthropic resources. The government issues a loaf of bread a day to every destitute family, but this is far from sufficient in many cases.

There are some six thousand wounded soldiers here now and medical supplies are still inadequate. At the first reserve hospital are a party of English nurses, who were brought here at the beginning of the war with Madame Slavko Grouitch, the American wife of the Serbian under secretary of foreign affairs. Madame Grouitch also helped organize the Red Cross work at Nish and it was on her advice that the American Red Cross Mission was placed at Belgrade. All this work and the fact that she has gone to America to seek additional aid to relieve the suffering of Serbia, has made her name and that of American doctors and nurses beloved by the whole Serbian people. There are several other American women married to Serbians—one to a member of the Royal family, another to a Serbian minister in Paris—and this is cited as a reason for the United States doing for Serbia what she is doing for Belgium.

Although this city, until 1870 the capital of Serbia, is at present the headquarters of the army, there is not much that a foreigner can see except the meetings are held in strictest secrecy as are all the deliberations of the chiefs of the army. There is a great magazine and arms factory here, in fact, the only one in the Balkans, and thousands of men are working night and day to keep the army fully equipped. Soldiers are constantly marching and counter-marching in the streets. In their idle moments they sit in the cafes, drinking Turkish coffee or the mild beer of the country and discuss the future plans of the army or the scenes of the last battle.

General Mischitch, commander of the first army, who has been raised to the rank of field marshal, is the hero of the day. He is a fine, soldierly figure, described as a man of few words, but with wonderful military knowledge. General Mischitch is a veteran of all the wars that Serbia has fought for the 50 years. He was second in command of the staff during the Balkan wars. He knows every inch of ground over which his troops have to fight and he has been often under fire on his trips from point to point in his automobile or on horseback.

Field Marshal Putnik, commander-in-chief, who it will be remembered, was arrested in Austria while on his way home from that country at the outbreak of the war, is in poor health, due to rude treatment he received from the Austrians at the time of his detention some say, but it seems more probable that his advanced age and the fatigue of the last two campaigns have told upon him.

The Associated Press correspondent dined at the invitation of a colonel at the officer's mess at the military club, formerly the Turkish palace. He found them keen for news of what was taking place in the other European fronts, of which they knew little.

Fresh from their own successful strategy and determined offensive in driving the Austrians back, they could not understand the comparative slowness of the movements on the west European front. Russia, they know, has many of their own difficulties of significant transportation for her forces, but they cannot understand why England and France with every mode of transport at their convenience, with an abundance of supplies and equipment of every kind, should not have made greater headway against the Germans.

"We hope some day," an officer said, "that the allies will have so far advanced that we can join with them, but at present we are keeping to our defensive without regard to their plans. All our time will be spent in reforming our army which is naturally somewhat shattered by the great trial through which it has passed. Now that we have plenty of ammunition and better equipment, it will not again be so easy for the enemy to advance into the heart of our country."

"Do you think Belgrade is now safe?" the correspondent asked.

Harper House pharmacy.—(Adv.)

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Keep window spaces warm!

As a rule you'll find 20% of the exterior of a house consists of windows, and the heat leakage through the glass constitutes 40% of the total heat loss in or from the average home. Our ideal heating provides the only means of offsetting the heavy onslaughts of cold at the windows by placing the radiators directly under or alongside the glass, thereby keeping the window spaces at the same uniform temperature as every other part of the house.

AMERICAN & IDEAL RADIATORS & BOILERS

ing—it is founded on natural laws. AMERICAN Radiators immediately meet the cold—unlike hot air registers which have to be placed in a protected corner of a room to coax the heat up, especially on windy days. A coal-economizing outfit of IDEAL SMOKELESS Boilers and AMERICAN Radiators will transform a moderate size bin of coal into extra months of abundant, sanitary warmth—and no fuel waste.

And what an astonishing amount of drudgery is lifted from mother, wife and maid in the doing away with lugging and heaving of scuttles and ash-pans, the blacking, taking down and storing of stoves, the heavy after-sweeping and cleaning, and the consequent wear on the furnishings and decorations of the home.



A No. 4121 IDEAL Boiler and 420 sq. ft. of 36-in. AMERICAN Radiators, costing the owner \$190, were used to heat this cottage. At this price the goods can be bought of any reputable, competent fitter. This did not include cost of labor, pipe, valves, freight, etc., which vary according to climatic and other conditions.

Whether your building is old or new—store, school, church, farm or city house—put in at once an outfit of IDEAL SMOKELESS Boilers and AMERICAN Radiators and enjoy solid, clean warmth to the end of your days. These outfits do not wear out; purchasers always get full money back, sell property quicker, or secure 10% to 15% greater rental. They are an investment, not an expense. They reduce the cost of living and better the living!

These outfits can be put in without tearing up, or disturbance to occupants or present heating devices until ready to put fire in the new IDEAL Boiler. Keep the windows and all other spaces warm as toast—put in the outfit now and enjoy at once the contrasting comfort, convenience and cleanliness. Prices now rule the lowest of a decade and you get the services of the most skillful fitters. Ask today for free book: "Ideal Heating."

Another great labor-saver—stationary Vacuum Cleaner, at \$150. You can wonderfully reduce house-labor and highly increase home health and cleanliness by use of ARCO WAND Vacuum Cleaner—sits in basement or side room; works through an iron pipe running to all floors; carries all dirt, dust, insects and their eggs, etc., to sealed bucket in machine; cleans carpets, furnishings, walls, ceilings, clothing. Ask also for catalog (free). Inquiry puts you under no obligation to buy.

Sold by all dealers. No exclusive agents. AMERICAN RADIATOR COMPANY. Write Department R-58 816-22 S. Michigan Ave. Chicago.

Public Showrooms at Chicago, New York, Boston, Providence, Philadelphia, Washington, Baltimore, Buffalo, Rochester, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Detroit, Atlanta, Birmingham, New Orleans, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Omaha, Minneapolis, St. Paul, St. Louis, Kansas City, Denver, Seattle, Portland, Spokane, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Toronto, London, Paris, Brussels, Berlin, Cologne, Milan, Vienna.

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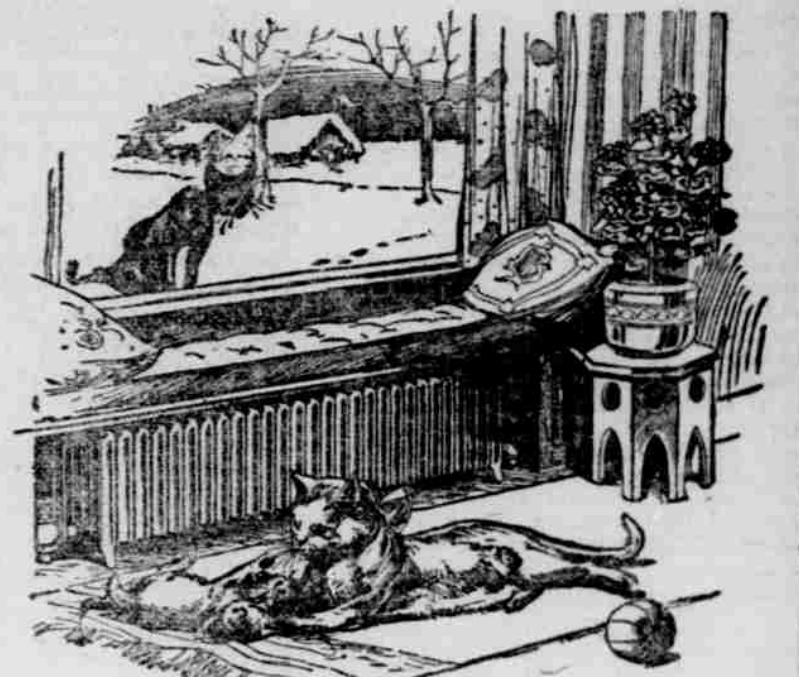
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"The heat that brings contentment"

No matter how fiercely winter rages at windows and doors, the faster will be the natural flow of warmth to the AMERICAN Radiators to offset the cold. That's the beauty of our way of heating.

AMERICAN Radiators immediately meet the cold—unlike hot air registers which have to be placed in a protected corner of a room to coax the heat up, especially on windy days. A coal-economizing outfit of IDEAL SMOKELESS Boilers and AMERICAN Radiators will transform a moderate size bin of coal into extra months of abundant, sanitary warmth—and no fuel waste.

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TAKE SALTS TO FLUSH KIDNEYS

Eat Less Meat if You Feel Backache or Have Bladder Trouble.

Meat forms uric acid which excites and overworks the kidneys in their efforts to filter it from the system. Regular eaters of meat must flush the kidneys occasionally. You must relieve them like you relieve your bowels: removing all the acids, waste and poison, else you feel a dull misery in the kidney region, sharp pains in the back or sick headache, dizziness, your stomach sour, tongue is coated and when the weather is bad you have rheumatic twinges. The urine is cloudy, full of sediment; the channels often get irritated, obliging you to get up two or three times during the night.

To neutralize these irritating acids and flush off the body's uric acid waste, about four ounces of Jad Salts from any pharmacy. Take a tablespoonful in a glass of water before breakfast for a few days and your kidneys will then act fine and bladder disorders disappear. This famous salt is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia and has been used for generations to clean and stimulate sluggish kidneys and stop bladder irritation. Jad Salts is inexpensive; harmless and makes a delightful effervescent lithia-water drink which millions of men and women take now and then, thus avoiding serious kidney and bladder diseases.

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IOWA FARMERS TO MINNESOTA SOON

ST. CLOUD MAN PREDICTS EXODUS AS RESULT OF REPEAL OF MUELCT LAW.

That the state of Iowa will lose a considerable part of its German population due to the repeal of the muelct law and that Minnesota will be the chief beneficiary in the opinion of L. J. Rocholl, city commissioner of St. Cloud, Minn., who is in the trenches for the purpose of inspecting the water works system, Commissioner Rocholl called upon City Clerk Hugo Moeller and other officials at the city hall, and during the course of his conversation, threw some additional light upon the prohibition question.

"When the first prohibition laws went into effect in the inland part of Iowa, there was a general exodus of German farmers to Minnesota," said Mr. Rocholl. "In fact, there is a regular colony of Iowa Germans near St. Cloud. They came up there because they believed in personal liberty and did not care to have a few so-called law makers dictate their course of conduct and manner of living."

"These Germans are numbered among our best citizens," continued Mr. Rocholl. "Every year they select

brate what they term an 'Iowa Day.' They charter a special train and have a grand reunion, with an all day picnic and all accessories thereto. It is a big function."

"With the repeal of the muelct law we look for a still bigger exodus of Iowa Germans to Minnesota. Iowa will be the loser and we will be the gainer."

Call for Bids.

Sealed proposals will be received at the mayor's office at Rock Island, Ill., until 2 o'clock p. m., April 3, 1915, for one incinerator or garbage disposal plant having a capacity of not less than 12 tons in 12 hours, capable of destroying without restriction all kinds of garbage, refuse, dead animals and night soil, said plant to be complete with equipment and odorless, also building to be of fire-proof construction. Bidder must furnish complete plans and specifications and a certified check in amount of five per cent of his bid.

City would be interested also in a proposition to utilize steam to be generated from burning garbage.

City reserves right to reject any or all bids.

Dated at Rock Island, Ill., this 20th day of February, A. D. 1915.

H. M. SCHRIVER, Mayor.

The average length of life, it is stated, rose from 21 1/4 years in the sixteenth century to 40 1/2 years in the nineteenth century.

All the news all the time—The Argus.

Canadian Wheat to Feed the World

The war's fearful devastation of European crops has caused an unusual demand for grain from the American Continent. The people of the world must be fed and there is an unusual demand for Canadian wheat. Canada's invitation to every industrious American is therefore especially attractive. She wants farmers to make money and bigger, prosperous homes for themselves while helping her to raise immense wheat crops.

You can get a Homestead of 160 acres FREE and other lands can be bought at remarkably low prices. Think of the money you can make with wheat at its present high prices, where for some time it is liable to continue. During many years Canadian wheat has averaged 25 bushels to the acre, many yields as high as 45 bushels to the acre. Wonderful crops also of Oats, Barley and Flax.

Mixed farming is fully as profitable as industry or agriculture. The excellent grasses full of nutrition are too good for feed either for stock or riding purposes. Good schools, hospitals, and other services are not wanting in Canada, but there is an open demand for farm labor to replace the many young men who have volunteered for the war.

The Government this year is urging farmers to put extra acreage into grain. Write for literature and particulars as to national railways rates to Department of Immigration, Ottawa, Canada, or

G. J. Broughton, 112 W. Adams Street, Chicago, Ill.
Canadian Government Agent.

160 ACRES IN WESTERN CANADA FREE